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Letter dated 18 October 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Belarus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the Declaration adopted on 2 October 1991 by the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus "On the foreign policy principles of the Republic of Belarus".

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and of its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 22, 60, 68, 75, 98, 131 and 135, and if you would bring it to the attention of the Commission on Human Rights.

(Signed) N. BURAVKIN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Belarus

ANNEX

Declaration of 2 October 1991 by the Supreme Soviet of Belarus on the foreign policy principles of Belarus

On the basis of the constitutional law of the Republic of Belarus, the Declaration of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus on the State Sovereignty of the Republic of Belarus and the resolution of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus on ensuring the political and economic independence of the Republic of Belarus, the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus:

Affirms its adherence to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, of which Belarus was a founding member, to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 December 1948, and to the international obligations assumed by the Republic of Belarus under its international agreements, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

And declares its readiness:

- to accede to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 16 December 1966 and to recognize the competence of the Human Rights Committee in accordance with article 41 of the Covenant;

- to sign the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and to assume the obligations pursuant upon the instruments adopted within the framework of that Conference.

The Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Belarus requests to the leaders of the Parliaments of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe to admit the Republic of Belarus as a full member of the Conference, to open talks on the elimination of nuclear weapons and to declare the European continent a nuclear-free zone.